

IN THE ABSTRACT

Replace the Abstract with the following rewritten version:

"Disclosed is a method for determining the sound velocity (C_b) in a basic material, in which an ultrasonic probe having a transmitting probe, a receiver transducer, and a forward member is used. The forward member is provided with a coupling surface, ~~by means of which~~ that couples the probe is coupled to the basic material, and has a sound velocity (C_v). The transmitting probe and the receiver transducer are aligned in an oblique manner from each other and from the coupling surface such that a main transmission direction of the transmitting probe and a main receiving direction of the receiver transducer intersect below the coupling surface. The centers of the transmitting probe and the receiver transducer are located at a distance K from each other and are located at a distance D_v from the coupling surface. According to the inventive method, the transmitting probe generates an ultrasonic pulse which runs through the forward member into the basic material, where the ultrasonic pulse creates a creeping wave, a portion of which arrives at the receiver transducer. The shortest sound traveling time (T_{tot}) is measured and the sound velocity (C_b) within the basic material is determined via the path between the transmitting probe and the receiver transducer, which supplies the shortest total traveling time (T_{tot})."